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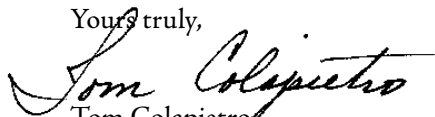
Dear Neighbors,

With new leadership in the General Assembly and in the Governor's office, the 2005 legislative session was filled with new opportunity. Crucial issues were debated with a fresh perspective and many accomplishments resulted.

In particular, we made important improvements in the state's commitment to help cities and towns meet the needs of residents. I have included in this report a chart that details the additional aid provided to Bristol.

I have also included a short list of additional issues that were addressed. Because of the space constraints on this report, I'd like to make sure that you know that additional and more detailed information is available on my Web site. If you have additional concerns or questions, you can call my office.

Yours truly,



Tom Colapietro  
State Senator, 31st District



# TOM COLAPIETRO

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*Representing the 31st District:  
Bristol, Harwinton, Plainville & Plymouth*

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# STATE AID

FOR THE CITY OF  
BRISTOL

Bristol will receive more state aid than last year to assist with school budgets, maintain roads and help pay for other general services.

	FY 04-05	FY 05-06	INCREASE FROM FY 04-05
Aid to Towns for Schools	\$34,722,027	\$36,257,229	\$1,535,202
Other Municipal Grants	\$2,540,534	\$2,705,486	\$164,952
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$37,262,561</b>	<b>\$38,926,347</b>	<b>\$1,700,154</b>

The legislature also authorized funding for important projects in Bristol including a \$1.5 million grant for the American Watch Museum and \$4 million to renovate and rehabilitate Rockwell Park. I'll work hard to ensure final approval by the State Bond Commission for these projects.



YOUR STATE SENATOR  
**TOM COLAPIETRO**



## 2005 LEGISLATIVE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

### Consumer Friendly Initiatives

- Gift Cards will be exempt from the abandoned property law. Consumers can be assured that any gift card sold in the state will NOT have an expiration date.
- In an effort to improve public safety, restaurants will be required to post signs for employees that explain how to recognize if a person is choking and the proper actions to take.
- Connecticut consumers will be able to receive shipments directly from farm wineries in both Connecticut and from out of state.

### Protecting our Seniors

- The legislature restored much needed resources to the Connecticut Dial-a-Ride program to ensure that seniors continue to receive the important service.

### Keeping our Roads Safe

- Banned cell phone use while driving a motor vehicle, unless the driver uses a hands-free device.
- Required child restraints for all children under the age of 7 or under 60 pounds.

### Helping Working Families

- Saved the HUSKY health insurance for low-income adults from budget cuts.
- Increased the minimum wage to \$7.40 an hour in 2006 and to \$7.65 an hour in 2007 to help working families.